

REMARKS

The applicant amends claims 1 and 49 to include the detector circuit limitations of originally filed claims 40 and 27, respectively. The applicant further cancels claims 27 – 29, 34 – 40, 47, 48, and 60 – 62, amends claims 4, 5, 30 – 33, and 41 to correspond to the amended independent claims, and offers the following remarks.

The claimed invention comprises a mobile device with a wireless headset that mechanically connects to the housing of the mobile device. The mobile device further includes a detector circuit that detects a position of the wireless headset relative to the mobile device. The mobile device automatically selects one of two operating modes, such as a wireless mode or an electronic mode responsive to the determined position. For example, the mobile device may select the electronic mode when the wireless headset is attached to the mobile device. Alternatively, the mobile device may select a wireless mode when the wireless headset is detached from the mobile device.

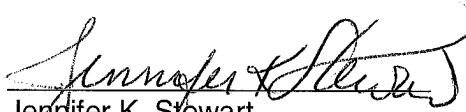
The Office Action mailed 26 June 2008 rejects claims 27 and 40 under §102 as anticipated by Silvester (US7369532), which have been incorporated into independent claims 49 and 1, respectively. Silvester does not teach or suggest selecting an operating mode or connection type for communications between a mobile device and the wireless headset responsive to a detected position of the wireless headset relative to the mobile device. Instead, Silvester only teaches establishing a wireless connection between a headset and some number of audio sources based on whether or not the audio sources are within a communication range of the headset. Thus, nothing in Silvester teaches or suggests a mobile device that selects one of two operating modes for communicating with the wireless headset (claim 1) or establishes a wireless or electrical connection between the wireless headset and the mobile device (claim 49) responsive to a position of the wireless headset relative to the mobile device. For at least this reason, Silvester does not anticipate claims 1 and 49 or any claims depending therefrom.

The applicant further submits that at least claims 20, 21, and 63 add further patentable limitations to the corresponding independent claims. The pending Office action rejects claims 20, 21, and 63 as obvious under §103 over Hahn (US6230029) in view of Yoo (US7120476). However, nothing in Hahn or Yoo (or even Silvester) teaches or suggests the claimed locator control. Hahn describes a wireless headset system comprises a "base station" module that electrically connects to the mobile device and wirelessly connects to the wireless headset to facilitate a wireless interface between the headset and the mobile device. Yoo describes a wireless headset that mechanically connects to a mobile device. Neither reference teaches or suggests any type of location device that helps a user find the wireless headset via a projected locator signal. Further, the pending office never explicitly addresses the locator control limitation. For at least these reasons, dependent claims 20, 21, and 63 are also patentably distinct from the cited art.

In light of the enclosed amendments and the above remarks, the applicant submits that claims 1 – 26, 30 – 33, and 41 – 46, 49 – 59, and 63 are patentably distinct from the cited art. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of all rejections and allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain unresolved, the applicant requests that the examiner contact the undersigned so that any such issues may be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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